

Care coordination in FFS Medicare

ISSUE: The Medicare FFS payment system provides little incentive for providers to coordinate care. The Commission is evaluating multiple strategies to encourage improved care coordination in the Medicare program.

KEY POINTS: Care coordination is important for ensuring seamless patient transitions from one provider, including whether the necessary information is available to providers and patients to support their respective roles in managing their care. Care coordination is also important over the longer term for patients with complex needs, including those with chronic conditions.

Based on Commissioner discussion, staff plan on researching several potential strategies for encouraging better care coordination. Over the next several months we will present our findings. At this month's meeting we will discuss in detail our key findings on measures of care coordination.

ACTION: The Commissioners should comment on the direction of the overall analysis and whether and how the measures outlined could encourage better coordination.

STAFF CONTACT: Karen Milgate (202-220-3738), Cristina Boccuti (202-220-3705), Ariel Winter (202-220-3755)